

PLANT PROTECTION DIVISION PEST PROGRAM

HORNET HERALD 21.05 - AUGUST 6, 2021

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BOTTLE TRAP OPENING UPDATE - CHECK YOUR TRAPS

Our trappers have noticed that depending on the type of plastic bottle, some of the openings are closing up.

When changing your bait each week, make sure that the flaps are still pushed all the way open. You can use a marker, pliers, or similar-sized object to push back the tabs so they are all the way open, which will save your finger from being pinched in the trap!



HUNGRY HORNET BABIES- WHAT'S ON THEIR MENU IN THE PNW?

While scientific literature indicates what Asian giant hornets eat in their native region, scientists didn't



know what they would eat in the Pacific Northwest – until now.

Finding out what hornets were eating in Washington provides for more than just passing curiosity and a quirky graphic. This information gives a first glimpse at what insect populations could be harmed if the Asian giant hornets establish themselves here. Click here to view the full menu.

ASIANT GIANT HORNET DISSECTION WEBINAR

A free webinar is being offered August 19 at 10:00 a.m. PST showing a video of Asian giant hornets being dissected, followed by a live Q&A with experts and scientists. This event is presented by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Agriculture Research Service and Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Cornell University, and WSDA. Click here to read more and attend this event.

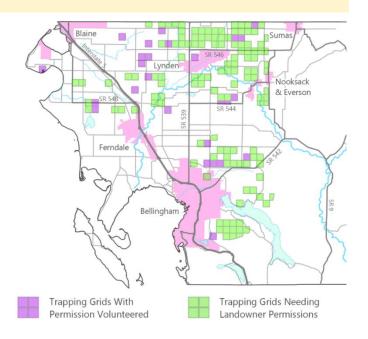
NORTHWEST WASHINGTON FAIR

Come visit WSDA at the Northwest Washington Fair in Lynden August 12 – 21 to learn all about Asian giant hornets! We will be located inside the Phillips 66 Center and will have real (dead) Asian giant hornet specimens, information about citizen scientist trapping, tracking devices, and more. Click here to connect with others attending the event.

TRAPPING PERMISSION

WSDA is asking citizens in the trapping response area for permission to hang traps on their property. Over 200 citizens have volunteered their property to eradicate AGH from Washington, and we are very thankful for everyone's efforts. However, we are still looking to fill a few areas with traps. If you are interested and think you might be located inside a green box, or know someone who would be willing to have a trap on their property, please email ccichorz@agr.wa.gov.

If you reside in Washington, inside or outside of the response grid, we still encourage you to help stop the spread and <u>trap as a citizen</u> scientist.



ASIAN GIANT HORNET LIFE CYCLE



In their native range, all Asian giant hornet colonies follow a specific life cycle.

Queens are currently laying eggs that develop into workers and expand the colony. When Asian giant hornets emerge from the nest, they are fully grown adults, usually between 1.5 – 2 inches, with large orange heads and a black and orange/yellow striped abdomen.

As the workers emerge they begin to attack

honeybees and other insects. It is now important to be on the lookout as those workers become more active while hunting.

#THATISNOTANASIANGIANTHORNET

#ThatIsNotAnAsianGiantHornet is an educational campaign to help residents identify Asian giant hornets by comparing them to insects that have frequently been reported as suspected Asian giant hornets.

You can search #ThatIsNotAnAsianGiantHornet on social media to find side by side images of insects next to an AGH. Help everyone learn about (and not kill!) native insects by sharing these images. You can also view these images here.



NEW DETECTIONS

There have been no new detections for AGH. WSDA and USDA are monitoring about 750 traps in Whatcom and Snohomish County, with more still to be added. WSDA is also encouraging you to be on the lookout and report potential sightings. Insects can end up anywhere, even street lights, so stay alert!

- Report using the <u>Hornet Watch Report Form</u>
- Email hornets@agr.wa.gov
- Call 1-800-443-6684

UPDATE FROM CANADA

As of July 30, 2021, there were no confirmed AGH findings in British Columbia this year. The B.C. government is increasing efforts to engage the public and stakeholders in AGH awareness and monitoring during the key month of August.

STAY CONNECTED

WSDA is dedicated to working with the public and to providing information on Asian giant hornets.

Contact hornets@agr.wa.gov if you are interested in learning more about Asian giant hornets.

- View past news releases, blogs, and Pest Program updates about Asian giant hornet.
- Join the <u>Asian giant hornet Facebook group</u>.
- Join the Pest Program email listserv.
- Follow WSDA on Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, and Twitter.